

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, last week, the United States Energy Information Administration published its Today in Energy report, which illustrated that shale gas provided the largest share of U.S. natural gas production in 2013.

According to the report, gross withdrawals from shale gas increased to 33 billion cubic feet in 2013, representing 40 percent of total natural gas production and surpassing production from nonshale gas wells.

According to EIA, production in Pennsylvania, Texas, Louisiana, and Arkansas accounted for 79 percent of the total shale gas extraction nationwide, and Pennsylvania has become the second largest shale gas-producing State.

I should note that, in 2007, shale gas made up just 8 percent of the total natural gas produced in the United States, with Texas alone counting for 63 percent of the total production nationally. Continuing a trend, production gains have enabled a decline in natural gas imports for the sixth straight year, reaching the lowest level since 1995.

Mr. Speaker, due to the innovation of private industry, our domestic energy resources are now easier to attain at a much lower cost, which is benefiting the American consumer and our Nation's economic competitiveness.

RECOGNITION OF WORLD AIDS DAY 2014

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, today is World AIDS Day, and I am very pleased to come from a city where so many celebrated and commemorated the progress and challenges involved.

I want to thank the Thomas Street clinic. I have visited there and seen the treatment that is given. As well, I thank the AIDS Foundation, which has always been on the front lines providing information and resources. I also want to thank the Montrose Clinic.

World AIDS Day, started in 1988, is an enormously important day. I remember being here as a civilian in the United States Senate when the Ryan White Act was introduced by Senator Kennedy and the distinguished Senator from Utah.

So we are here today to say we have not done all that we need to do. PEPFAR has cared for millions around the world through the work that we have done here in the United States Congress. Deaths have declined, but yet HIV/AIDS and transmission from mothers to infants still exists. It is important to continue the work. We should not ignore the success or challenges.

I am very glad to work with organizations in my district, and I hope that funding in the omnibus or the appropriations process is not diminished in

fighting to eliminate HIV/AIDS in our lifetime. I thank all of those who have sacrificed and lost their lives.

Mr. Speaker, World AIDS Day affords us an opportunity to reflect on our progress in fight against the global AIDS pandemic and to rededicate ourselves to ending the disease once and for all.

We have come a long way since the first World AIDS Day in 1988 by dramatically expanding investments in HIV/AIDS prevention, care, treatment, and research.

Strong advocacy has paved the way for the Ryan White Act, the Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS Initiative, growing investments in NIH research, and an end to the ban on federal funds for syringe exchange.

Beyond our borders, our efforts have extended care to millions in the developing world, through increased resources for PEPFAR and the Global Fund.

Our investments have saved lives—preventing millions of new HIV cases, expanding access to improved treatments, and enabling medical advances that help HIV/AIDS patients live longer and healthier.

Here and across the globe, AIDS deaths are on the decline, and studies are pointing the way to new approaches to limit the spread of the disease, with treatment as prevention.

While our efforts have grown, we still only reach half of all people eligible for HIV treatment; and more must be done.

Working together, we must continue to strengthen—not weaken—our national and international efforts to combat AIDS and other infectious diseases.

We must work to achieve the Obama Administration's goal of an AIDS-free generation.

We must honor the memory of those we have lost and act on our hope, optimism, and determination to end the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

We must continue to work with programs and clinics, like the Harris County Hospital District (HCHD), who are treating and caring for patients with HIV/AIDS.

In 1989, HCHD opened Thomas Street Health Center, the first free-standing facility dedicated to outpatient HIV/AIDS care in the nation. The center has become the cornerstone of all HIV/AIDS care available to Harris County residents.

The Thomas Street Health Center has dedicated their services to about 25 percent of Harris County's HIV/AIDS.

Annually, the health center, along with HCHD, serves 4,463 unique patients for about 37,000 patients' visits.

We will continue to fight a tough fight against HIV and AIDS. We will continue to strengthen and support centers like Thomas Street Health Center who work diligently with HIV/AIDS patients.

Our focus on HIV/AIDS prevention and awareness will be to ensure all of our friends, relatives and children live healthy and full lives.

HONORING DR. MAY BERENBAUM

(Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. May Berenbaum for being named a recipient of the National Medal of Science.

Dr. Berenbaum is a world-class entomologist at the University of Illinois, whose exceptional contributions to insect research have earned her this top award which she received at the White House last month.

A leading voice on the issue of pollinator health, Dr. Berenbaum has been critical to policymakers and to peers alike. After all, we have pollinators to thank for one out of every three bites of food that we have, and we have Dr. May Berenbaum to thank for being a leading researcher and enthusiastic voice in helping us sustain the pollinator population.

As a supporter of the National Science Foundation research and agricultural research, I come to the floor today, Mr. Speaker, to again congratulate Dr. May Berenbaum. Our area is very proud of you for receiving this honor.

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WORLD WAR II VETERAN JIM CARROLL RECEIVES KNIGHT OF THE LEGION OF HONOR MEDAL

(Mr. PAULSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Bloomington, Minnesota, resident Jim Carroll, who was awarded the Knight of the Legion of Honor Medal by the government of France. That is the highest honor given by the government of France to a foreign national.

Jim was honored for his actions as a U.S. Army paratrooper during World War II. His first combat jump with the 101st Airborne Division was at Normandy Beach, where he helped secure a critical bridge. Jim then went on to fight in Operation Market Garden and the Battle of the Bulge.

Jim Carroll's willingness to put his life in danger in service to our country and our allies is absolutely worthy of our respect and deserving of the special recognition.

After leaving the military, Jim married his wife, Effie, and moved to Bloomington, Minnesota, where he has lived now for 70 years.

Mr. Speaker, we are all thankful for Jim's service and congratulate him on receiving the French Knight of the Legion of Honor Medal.

AMERICAN-MADE MEANS AMERICAN JOBS

(Mr. FITZPATRICK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, my constituents in Pennsylvania know that American-made means American jobs. Whether it is the medical device manufacturer that employs hundreds or the family small shop down the road, the jobs and products created by American businesses in our communities are what drives our economy.